

Old World News Flashed by Cable to The Times-Dispatch

PRIVATE BALLET WILL BE IMMENSE

Greatest Review and Caricature Ever Held in Eternal City.

DONNA TORLONIA AT HEAD

Wildspread Interest Being Taken in Her Social Venture.

BY VANCE THOMPSON.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, December 24.—Donna Marina Torlonia has just been to Paris in the throes of preparation for the biggest private ballet, review and caricature of Roman society ever held in the Eternal City. Until she married Don Torlonia, three years ago, the duchess was Miss Elsie Moore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moore, of New York.

During the short period of her married life the duchess has succeeded in placing herself prominently in the best Roman aristocratic society. Last season she gave a dinner, at which 200 Torlonias were guests.

Studied in Music Hall. This dinner is still the talk of Parisian and Roman society. For the forthcoming entertainment, the American duchess has carefully studied the music hall of Paris, such as the Folie Regere, Olympia, Alhambra and Batclan, not to mention the Moulin Rouge. Great interest in this social venture has been taken by the Parisian musical managers, ballet masters and writers of popular reviews, who, one and all, are ready to take hand in making the entertainment of the duchess a great success.

The Duke Marino di Torlonia is also greatly interested in this music hall venture of his wife. It appears that no prominent nobles will be spared. Even those who trace their descent from Romulus and Remus are to be caricatured at the investigation of this social venture of the republic. It is interesting to know that there are fifty American ladies married to Roman princes or dukes, so in this review many Americans will figure.

Cousins to Assist Duchesses. Also in the forthcoming entertainment the duchess will be assisted by her cousins, the Russells and the Borghezes, the Doria and others of the two princely and dual lines to which her husband belongs.

French society is wondering how such Americans as the Princess San Faustino, formerly Miss Campbell; the Princess Poggio Suse, nee Curtis; the Princess Colonna, nee Bryant, and Stomum, will like to see themselves and their princely lords who are to serve as targets for writers of this society review. The great event will probably be held in the princely ball room of Torlonia Palace some time towards the end of January.

Goodbye, Fairness Valueless. The late Lady Maud of London, who recently brought suit against Frank Gardner for non-payment of rent of her country house in England, and who got judgment for at least a part of her claim for \$4,000, just before her death attached the picture gallery in the Gardner mansion which stands in a five-acre lot in Laville.

Hitherto this gallery had been considered as very valuable, but the expert whom Lady Maud sent to execute the judgment has made an extraordinary report that many of the pictures supposed to make up the collection are missing and others are bogus. Among the pictures described as bogus is a famous Madonna and Child attributed to Raphael.

Madonna Not a Raphael. Frank Lacroix Gardner has always supposed to have been owner of this masterpiece. The official reports, however, that it is not a Raphael, nor even of Raphael school, and that it has little or no real value.

Another picture the court ordered sold to pay Lady Maud was a Leonardo Da Vinci. This picture, according to the expert, was so bad he says Da Vinci could not have painted it had he tried. It has no value.

Another picture attributed to Masaccio has also been pronounced valueless. As Lady Maud could get nothing to satisfy the French court's judgment, she appealed, but the lease of the Gardner mansion stands in the name of Mrs. Gardner, formerly Mme. Legay.

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IS WAGING FIGHT ON BLACK HAND

Efforts to Check Immigration of Italian Criminals to America.

MATTER UP IN PARLIAMENT

Government Interested in Safeguarding Name of Its Citizens.

BY CAMILLO CIANFARRA.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Rome, December 24.—The fight which Miss Amy A. Bernard, formerly instructor of Italian at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., has been waging against the Black Hand from the columns of the local press has been transferred to the floor of the Italian Parliament. Deputy Valvasori-Peroni openly invited Marquis Di San Giuliano, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to devise ways and means to permanently check the migration of Italian criminals to the United States, and to co-operate with the American government in the detection of the criminals.

Deputy Peroni's speech followed the publication of what purported to be the secret rules binding together the members of the Black Hand groups spread throughout the United States. The publication was made under Miss Bernard's name, and in presenting the document to the Italian public, the fearless American girl declared that while she could not tell how she had come in possession of the document, yet she could vouch for its authenticity and veracity.

Hopes for Co-Operation. To the New York Times correspondent Deputy Peroni said it was his intention to urge the Italian government to open negotiations with the American authorities so as to come to an understanding as to what can be done to remedy the present situation, which is regarded as extremely detrimental as well as dangerous to the reputation of the Italian name in America.

"We all know," Deputy Peroni told me, "that the large majority of the Italians residing in America are hard-working, thrifty and industrious, and that the prejudices existing against them are mainly due to the rascally behavior of a small number of criminals who have fled the country to continue under an assumed name their criminal careers on the other side of the ocean."

"I also know that for the sake of the reputation of the Italian name residing there the Italian authorities are always glad to get them back and put them where they can do no harm; the question with us is how to get back every criminal, and as fast as they try to make their presence felt among the Italians and the Americans."

"The American police are very clever, and I personally do not believe that the politicians' pull can prevent them from hauling before the courts those who, according to the laws passed by the American Congress, can be deported to their native country. What we believe to be true is that the American police of the smaller cities are not in any way prepared to detect the Southern Italian criminal. If ignorance of the language and ways of the people he can hardly expect to succeed in his attempts to win the confidence of the blackmailer's victim. Thus the Italian settlement is closed to him, his presence is quickly detected and the criminals informed by their many confederates."

Easy to Recognize Them. "To the New York Times correspondent Deputy Peroni said it was his intention to urge the Italian government to open negotiations with the American authorities so as to come to an understanding as to what can be done to remedy the present situation, which is regarded as extremely detrimental as well as dangerous to the reputation of the Italian name in America."

Three American girls, whose husbands are members of the new English Parliament. Beginning at the top are the Countess of Granard, formerly Miss Beatrice Mills, of New York; Lady Acheson, formerly Mrs. Captain Spencer Clay, formerly Miss Pauline Astor, whose husband is a prominent member of the Unionist party, and Lady Acheson, formerly Miss Mildred Carter, daughter of Hon. John Riddely Carter, the American diplomat. Mrs. Spencer Clay is the daughter of William Waldorf Astor, the expatriated American, who is also a member of the English Parliament, together with his son, Waldorf Astor.

KING'S VISIT MAY DISPEL RUMORS

England Not Hurt Over Holland's Intention to Fortify Rivers.

BY PHILIP EVERETT.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, December 24.—The announcement of a coming visit of the King and Queen of England to Holland cannot very well be interpreted except as an effort to put an end to the rumors that Great Britain really very much hurt because of Holland's intention of fortifying her river mouths, and particularly of building strong fortifications at Flushing. Like his late father, King George is very much interested in the preservation of European peace, and his visit to Queen Wilhelmina's court is to be a visible sign that England is not the slightest affected by French, and especially Belgian, attempts to create ill feeling between England and Holland by accusing the Dutch government of having coerced by a person of the Tory party, Kaiser Wilhelm to Queen Wilhelmina warning her that if the Dutch coast towns were not fortified against England, Germany might eventually be compelled to occupy them in self-defense.

That the little country of Holland will be in great danger in case of war is evident, and it is no more than natural that she should endeavor to put herself in a position to defend herself on which her national existence depends, and King George's visit will tend to show that the English government is far from resenting Holland's plans, which are so plainly meant for defense only.

With that day the rumor grows stronger that after the disappointment of the recent elections, when the Conservatives used every dodge and trick to elect a Tory government, which is now being compared with William Jennings Bryan in tactics and lack of success, will permanently retire from the leadership of the Tory party. Three times he has led his party to the polls, and three times they have been defeated.

No British statesman, since popular representation was established, has such a record as this. Mr. Gladstone was once or twice severely beaten, but always at the succeeding election the people again gave him their confidence. He was defeated in 1874, but he triumphed in 1880. He was beaten in 1886, but he was made Prime Minister again in 1892, when the country next had an opportunity of recording its opinion.

In 1906 Mr. Balfour was thrust out by the greatest and most overwhelming

majority known in British history. In January, 1910, after four years of Liberal rule, the country again would place no confidence in him, and now, in December, 1910, it has been clear that the country will not vote to place him in office.

ACADEMICIANS MUCH PERTURBED

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, December 24.—Madame Curie's official candidacy for a vacancy in the Academy of Sciences has thrown the academic world into perturbation. As long as her name was put forward only unofficially by her friends, the whole question was discreetly ignored. But Madame Curie, by letter, officially put herself up for election. It is certain that no woman and few men were ever as well qualified to sit in the Academy of Sciences as Madame Curie, and it is no less obvious that if she be not elected, absolutely the only reason for her rejection will be her sex. No one will be able to say that she is not a great physicist as a woman, but not judged by the same standard as men. The question was never so clearly put, and the academy was never so badly embarrassed. An additional awkward circumstance is that the seat to which Madame Curie is a candidate is the very one once occupied by her husband, Pierre Curie, killed in a lamentable street accident. The scientific world is perfectly well aware that as a pioneer of science Madame Curie is at least the equal of her husband, and that, as he always was the first to say, it was the two of them together who discovered radium. Yet the awful fact remains that she is a woman.

The Academy of Sciences shudders at the idea of electing a woman, even Madame Curie. Only one woman has ever sat in a French academy, the painter, Madame Vigee le Brun, in the Academy of Fine Arts. The Academy of Sciences will almost certainly not follow that sole example. They will hate to reject Madame Curie, and many will write privately to her to apologize humbly; but they will reject her. A sort of round robin has been circulated among academicians, the result of which will probably be that before Madame Curie's election can be considered a previous resolution will have been passed, ruling that no woman is eligible. But however diplomatic the process adopted, the result will be the same. Madame Curie, a qualified and distinguished physicist, a scientist of the first rank, will be rejected because she is a woman. The woman's question will never have been so plainly put.

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through the Italian settlements of the large and small cities could act as informers for the American police and watch the suspects' movements.

"Americans generally believe that Italy is always glad to get rid of criminals, and I shall be very much indebted to the New York American, in the name of my country, if you will say that the contrary is the truth. Our emigration laws strictly forbid the issue of a passport to anybody who has a criminal record. But that is easily remedied, and our honest efforts to prevent the emigration of Italian criminals are frustrated."

The Sicilian criminal, for instance, where the passport is refused to him, goes either to Tunis or some other African port and thence he works his way to a French port, where a passport is not any more needed. The ultimate result is that when the criminal reaches Ellis Island the immigration authorities cannot exact from him a passport, inasmuch as France does not issue one to its emigrants.

How He Escapes Detection. "Once admitted, he is almost safe from detection. His friends and his confederates shelter and protect him as long as he needs their help. In my opinion, the work of expurgating the Italian settlements in America of blackmailers and cut-throats cannot be successfully undertaken by the American police alone, and it is the duty of the Italian government to offer them whatever help they may need."

In answering the several speakers, Marquis Di San Giuliano said that Deputy Peroni's ideas would be taken into account at the proper moment. It is also known that since the performance at the opera has induced William Robinson, of Paris and New York, and St. Wrenna, of Northampton, Eng., also to take a hand in giving the gallant sailor lads a good time.

Robinson, who is as well known in Rue de La Paix as Fifth Avenue, decided that the Cafe de Paris was the only fitting place to entertain the boys behind the guns, and as there were four ships at Cherbourg and four at Brest, with delicate tact Mr. Robinson invited the men from each fleet to dine at 9 o'clock, the hour that beauty was in the assembly there. When the ladies saw Mr. Robinson hand \$10 to the head waiter as a preliminary tip, and when they saw the gorgeous Lions de Poney Club and Helene Baxene, it struck them that they were having a pretty good sort of time.

"Nothing can be too good for the defenders of our country," said Mr. Robinson as he filled and refilled the glasses with champagne. When the speaking-making began there were roars of friendship between France and the United States.

HAMBER OF DEPUTIES

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, December 24.—At the beginning of the new year the Chamber of Deputies elects its president. The post is an important one, and the chamber is taking next rank to the president of the Senate, who comes immediately after the President of the Republic.

If anything happened to the chief of the state, the selection of his successor would be from the heads of the two chambers. M. Henri Brisson, who is seventy-five years of age, will seek re-election, although it was announced some time ago that he would not do so.

It appears, however, that an unexpected candidate may turn up in the person of M. Deleage. This eminent member of the Radical, and therefore a member of the Ministerial majority. Since he left the Quai d'Orsay he has only taken part in important debates on two occasions, and on each occasion he overthrew a minister. The fact is, there is no nonsense about M. Deleage. When he speaks it is because he has something to say. The chamber listens to him with deference, for he carries authority with him. The scandalous scenes in the chamber a few weeks ago would have been impossible if M. Deleage had filled the chair.

There is a strong feeling among members that a change is desirable, and M. Deleage would, they think, be an ideal president.



MRS. ROBERT GROSVENOR, Daughter of Mrs. Ernest Cadbury by her first husband, the late Mr. Pedelford, who made a strong speech in the recent English elections in support of the Women's Unionist and Tariff Reform Association. She was formerly an American girl.

CENTRE IS MOVING TOWARD GERMANY

Change So Subtle That It Cannot Arouse Any Alarm.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Berlin, December 24.—The beneficial effect of Christmas, even in politics, is probably more evident this year than for many years past, and European statesmen may enjoy their holidays with the absolute assurance that on the whole continental political horizon there is not the smallest cloud to rouse any alarm. Judging from outward appearances, the grouping of the great powers is unchanged, the triple alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy being counterbalanced by the triple entente of Russia, France and England, but the more acute observer will notice the main line of this road with Huns.

Germany is moving towards Germany, though in a manner so subtle that it cannot arouse any alarm or even uneasiness. The work of expurgating the Italian settlements in America of blackmailers and cut-throats cannot be successfully undertaken by the American police alone, and it is the duty of the Italian government to offer them whatever help they may need.

In answering the several speakers, Marquis Di San Giuliano said that Deputy Peroni's ideas would be taken into account at the proper moment. It is also known that since the performance at the opera has induced William Robinson, of Paris and New York, and St. Wrenna, of Northampton, Eng., also to take a hand in giving the gallant sailor lads a good time.

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CHRISTMAS TIME IS UNDISTURBED

No Note of Discord to Mar the Anthem of Bethlehem.

STILL RUMORS OF WARS

But Year Is Closing With Good Omens for Peace of the World.

BY WM. T. STEAD.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, December 24.—Christmas this year is undisturbed by any note of discord in the anthem of Bethlehem so far, at least, as it relates to international peace. There are still rumors of wars, but there is no war waging at present either on the sea or the land. Not only is this so, but the year is closing with many good omens for the future of the campaign in favor of international peace.

In this field the honors undoubtedly lie with the Americans. The Carnegie bequest is only one of the many signs that the leadership of the world in the direction of the establishment of international peace by arbitral justice is the recognized prerogative of the United States. The role is one to which the republic seems to be summoned by its history. The men who have federated a continent are those to whom we naturally look as the federators of the world.

Taft View Visionary.

The declaration of President Taft in favor of a treaty of arbitration with some great nation which would allow every issue to be settled by arbitration, no matter what it involved, whether honor, territory or money, is very magnificent, but it is not politics. Any nation that adopted so heroic an attitude might find itself confronted by a demand so preposterous that no government that entertained it would exist for an hour. If an arbitral decision must be accepted in advance as absolutely final, President Taft may resolve until the cows come home in favor of arbitration without reserve. He must either reserve subjects that nations regard as a matter of life and death or he must reserve the ultimate right to appeal to the sword. Until there is such a universal agreement to refer all questions which cannot be settled by negotiations to arbitration, it is most important that there should be a permanent court instituted for the purpose of deciding whether the questions in dispute do or do not come within the categories on which arbitration has been admitted to be obligatory.

King's Health Not Good.

The King and his court have gone to Sandringham to spend Christmas, and it would be a good thing if after Christmas the King could take the three weeks' holiday for a cruise in the Mediterranean. His health is by no means all that could be desired. There is nothing serious the matter with him beyond a more or less nervous inertia, which reacts on his digestive organs, which are by no means strong. Those who have met him at shooting parties recently have been much impressed by the absence of vigor and good spirits. He is silent and depressed, a great contrast to the King who was always jolly and full of conversation. The royal parties in which the King holds his tongue are somewhat dismal assemblies, for it is etiquette that the King should lead the conversation. The ability of the present Empress of Russia to keep conversation going has sometimes led to such embarrassing consequences that the circle around her and the imperial household have been almost a gathering of mutes.

Veto Bill Will Pass.

Before going to Sandringham the King gave an audience of three-quarters of an hour to Premier Asquith, who came up to town for the purpose, and who has gone back to spend his Christmas in Scotland. There is no difficulty of any kind between the King and the Prime Minister. It is recognized on all sides that His Majesty has no choice but to act upon the advice of his constitutional advisers.

As they have just come back from the country with a slightly increased majority on this definite issue the King must see the veto bill through Parliament.

All the wild talk of the few extreme malcontents finds no echo in the court or with responsible leaders of the peers. There will, of course, be a great deal of protest, possibly a solemnly recorded vow that they will repeal the veto bill when they come back to power, but the peers will yield to "force majeure," and a controversy between the peers and the people will be adjourned until next year.

Unionist Factions in Feud.

The Unionists have not only been beaten at the election; they have been thoroughly demolished. Evidence continues to multiply that the Tories are about to take place with the Liberal tariff reformers and those who side-tracked tariff reform by bringing referendum before the country on the eve of election.

Austin Chamberlain has not yet spoken, but the newspaper recognized as his organ at Birmingham has declared it cannot honestly say it can look back with unaltered satisfaction on the election and the changes in policy which have accompanied it. It goes on to intimate there must not be any more talk concerning the sub-plotting of tariff reform to a vote of the people. Whenever a general election takes place, the tariff reformers are to be regarded as the equivalent to a referendum, and a tariff reform budget can be passed without reference to the people.

This sounds very much like an ultimatum from Chamberlain, but beyond indicating a source of trouble for the Conservatives it is of no practical importance. Tariff reform is as dead as a door nail.

Alpine Climbers Killed.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Geneva, December 24.—According to statistics published by the Swiss newspapers, the number of climbers killed in the Swiss and Italian Alps from October 1 to October 31, 1910, was thirty, while eighty others were seriously injured. The Swiss head the list of victims, and are followed by German, British, American and Italian tourists in the order named. The causes of the great number of accidents were thirty, while eighty others were seriously injured. The causes of the great number of accidents were thirty, while eighty others were seriously injured.

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